

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): An inorganic compound sol comprising a dispersion medium having a dielectric constant of from 10 to 85 and, dispersed therein, inorganic compound particulates having average particle size from about 11 to 30 nm whose surface has been modified by an organic compound which is selected from the class consisting of vinylsilane compounds, acrylsilane compounds, epoxysilane compounds, aminosilane compounds, γ -mercaptopropyltrimethoxysilane and γ -chloropropyltrimethoxysilane, exhibiting a molecular polarizability of from 2×10^{-40} to $850 \times 10^{-40} \text{ C}^2\text{m}^2\text{J}^{-1}$, wherein the organic compound particulates are composite oxide particulates composed of silica and at least one inorganic oxide other than silica, with the weight ratio of silica to at least one inorganic oxide other than silica being 3 to 500, wherein the silica containing composite oxides are produced by simultaneously adding an alkali metal silicate and an alkali soluble inorganic oxide to an alkali aqueous solution, and wherein the inorganic compound sol is stable in the presence of species selected from the group consisting of ionic components, salts and surfactants.

Claims 2-4 (cancelled)

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Claim 5 (Previously Presented): The inorganic compound sol of claim 1, wherein the inorganic compound sol is stable in the presence of ionic components.